SPIRIT OF THE PRESS.

EDITORIAL OPINIONS OF THE LEADING JOURNALS UPON CURRENT TOPICS-COMPILED EVERY DAY FOR THE EVENING TELEGRAPH.

The Great Democratic Blunder-The New Age of Steam and the Telegraph. From the N. Y. Herald.

The Democratic flagship, bearing the broad pennant of Seymour and Blair, is "hard on" among the breakers of Southern reconstruction. The Tammany platform on this subject flatly declares all the legislation of Congress and all the reconstruction proceedings under this legislation "unconstitutional, revolutionary, and void," and General Blair, through the Southern wing of the Convention, was made the Democratic candidate for Vice-President mainly because of his Brodhead letter, in which he declared that if he were President he would assume the responsibility, and compel the army to undo its usurpations in the South, etc.

Here was the great blunder of the Tammany Convention. Here was a rare opportunity wilfully and very stupidly thrown away. Upon the general issue of the shortcomings, wasteful extravagances, unparalleled corruptions, excessive taxations, etc., of the party in power, the Democracy, with Mr. Chase as their candidate, had the succession within their grasp. Unfortunately for the party, however, the Convention was too largely composed of the Northern Bourbon Copperhead and old Southern State sovereignty elements of the school of Calboun, and the Southern wing, as before the war, held the balance of power. And so it was that in the Tammany platform, and in the nomination of General Blair the Democracy were made to fight over again their battle of 1864 upon the leading idea that the war was a failure.

Thus the Tammany platform and ticket were exactly what the Republicans wanted; for they could ask for nothing better than the battle of 1864 over again, combined with the great issue of the constitutional amendment fourteen, upon which they swept the country in 1866 against Johnson's plan of Southern restoration. And here we are drawn to a Mobile letter published in Monday's Herald, giving some account of a conversation of Howell Cobb with our correspondent in August last on the political situation. From this letter it appears that Cobb, originally a supporter of amendment fourteen, had changed his mind to the most decided opposition, and (under the inspiration, no doubt, of the Tammany Convention) demanded nothing less than the "abandonment of every measure (adopted by Congress) of reconstruction and a recognition of every Southern as an equal of every Northern State." As for this amendment fourteen, "he considered it the most dangerous encroachment upon the re-served rights of the States of any yet at-tempted by the party in power." He thought the prospect for Seymour's election was bad that the revolution must reach its climax, and expressed a high opinion of Mr. Bennett's political sagacity. But the most emphatically expressed opinion of the late conspicuous Georgia politician was this-that, after all, "the South will be, an independent republie;" that "Jeff. Davis truly said that although our cause is lost, the principles for which we fought can never die."

From all this it will be seen that the managers of the Tammany Convention and the Southern Democratic leaders are still delving among the fossils of a past age. Abandon these Southern reconstruction laws as "revo-lutionary and void?" Has Congress, then, no power over a rebellious State after disarming it? If not, then the subjugated State, on its reserved rights, may a row, and the war was a failure. The constitutional amendment fourteen is an encroachment upon the reserved rights of the States as they were before; but we cannot see how it is to be set aside except by another amendment or another civil war. It cannot be abandoned otherwise, for, with the official voucher of the Secretary of State affixed, we apprehend that it has passed beyond the jurisdiction of the Supreme Court. Having made up their case upon these issues, it needed no prophet to tell the consequences to the Democratic party and their Presidential ticket of Seymour and Blair

against Grant and Colfax. The idea, too, that the South will yet be an independent republic is a fallacy of the epoch before the deluge. Within the last_twenty years the telegraph, railways, and steamships have introduced a new testament among the nations and peoples of the earth. The old theory of a confederation of petty sovereign States is supplanted, and everywhere these new political forces of steam and electricity, together with universal education and an independent press, are operating to centralization. We have one example of this in the unification of Italy, another in the unification of the North German States, and yet another in the amendments of our Federal Constitution since the Rebellion against the pernicious dogmas of State sovereignty and reserved State rights; and these are but the beginnings of this new dispensation. With the telegraph the cities of New York and San Francisco are brought into immediate rapport, and with the railway the people of New York city and St. Louis are as pear to each other as were New York and Saratoga fifty years ago. The splendid turnpikes radiating from the Capitol were one secret of the commanding power of the Roman empire; but with his railways and telegraphs the strength of Napoleon III at Paris reduces to a bagatelle the power of Augustus.

In a word, we are in the midst of a new age of centralization under these tremendous centralizing forces of steam and electricity, and powerful central governments embracing huudreds of thousands and millions of square miles of territory will take the places of petty municipalities and States and rickety confederations of incongruous little sovereignties. The sooner our Democratic politicians, North and South (but especially of the South), begin to build upon this idea the sooner will they begin to see daylight.

Seymour's Insincerity.

From the N. Y. Times. A man aspiring to the Presidency should, at least, be truthful and honest in his inter-

course with friends and the public. frankness and sincerity of General Grant are among his qualifications for the office. He is known to have a mind of his own, and to be candid and outspoken in the statement of his opinions and purposes. What he says he means; what he promises to do, everybody is sure he will perform. Mr. Seymour, on the contrary, is an impersonation of insincerity. He was hollow and hypocritical in his position as Governor during the war. While pro-fessing to aid the Government, he did all he could to embarrass it. Pretending to desire the preservation of the Union, he took the side of Vallandigham and the traitors at the North who were plotting for its destruction. He denounced the object of the war while feigning solicitude for its success, derided it as a failure on the very eve of its triumph, and has ever since endeavored to frustrate its results. His whole public course in this respect wears the aspect of treachery.

The same characteristic is apparent in his

friend of Mr. Chase's nomination, and was instrumental in defeating it. He disclaimed all desire for his own nomination, and pro-tested that he would not like it, then intrigued to secure it, and shed crocodile tears because his point had been carried. He missted upon a compromise platform before the Convention, and endorsed a platform constructed by Rebels and Copperheads. The humiliating spectacle may have been occasioned by weakness, but it was weakness so near akin to duplicity that none could distinguish a dif-

ference between them. The last stage of all reveals the continued exercise for the quality. Mr. Seymour wanted —or pretended to want—to retire, and his party managers desired that he should. He said he preferred private life, and they discovered that the weight of the ticket exceeded the strength of the Democracy. Nothing was needed to perfect a change which would at once have gratified Seymour's professed wish and relieved the party but Seymour's resignation. But he did not resign. He preferred to stick. And by way of showing how completely a candidate whom his party would like to skake off could sink that party in odium and defeat, he is performing a ten days' crusade in behalf of nullification and

repudiation. Of what avail is Seymour's rhetoric, when everybody feels that it comes from the lips only, and has not the remotest connection with the heart? He has neither sincerity nor consistency. All he now says in regard to bonds and currency is flatly contradicted by his own words, spoken before the nomination. Conviction in such a case is impossible. He talks according to the partisan requirement of the time, with not a single genuine feeling save that which prompted opposition to the war. He has been as treacherous in his dealings with Democrats about the Presidency as he has been dishonest in his discussion of the figancial policy of which he is now the ad-

What It All Means.

From the N. Y. Tribune. Even the emphatic voices of the October elections have not taught the Democratic party the real issues of the pending contest. Routed at every point of the line, they still hug the delusion that only their candidates, and not their principles, have been defeated, and at the last hour are easting about for new leaders, in the hope that when the battle is already lost they can save the field by a mere change of standard-bearers. This error may break them up forever. They are beaten, not because Seymour is of doubtful loyalty and Blair a revolutionist, but because their platform re-vives the very heresies which the North fought four years to overthrow. No candidate whom they could nominate could be elected on the Tammany plaform. The principles enun-ciated in that instrument were settled once for all at Appomattox Court House. We have no purpose either to throw away our victory, or to fight our battle over again, or to put our trust in a party which was dishonorably for peace in the midst of war, and is now traitorously for war in the midst of peace. They candidates are of comparatively little importance in this election, except so far as the represent the purposes of those who put them in nomination; and if the Democracy had any chance of success on the 3d of November it

in a change of principles. In the same way it is a mistake to suppose that the Republican triumph is merely the triumph of a popular general. Many good Democrats, no doubt, will vote for Grant in spite of his principles, because they honor the man, though they are not in sympathy with his party. For this, among other reasons, the Kepublican majorities in November will be much larger than they have been in October. But we have already abundant evidence that, quite apart from personal considerations, the loyal party which stood firmly by the flag through the long dark days of the Rebellion has been true to its principles ever since, and would be true to them even were there no Grant to lead them on to victory in 1868, as he led them through the Mississippi morasses and the Virginia Wilderness. General Grant, it should be remembered, was not accepted as the Republican leader until he had given ample proof of his thorough accord with the Republican creed. Highly as we have honored him, liberally as we would have rewarded him, we felt that the election of this year was to be a great contest of ideas, which must either settle or unsettle the theory of the American Government, and either complete the work of the war or half undo it. It was not a mere test of personal popularity, like the voting at fancy fairs for the privilege of naming the prettiest girl, or bestowing a prize snuff-box. The people were alive to the importance of the issue. They demanded of the Chicago Convention an honest representative of the loyal policy; and if Grant were not such a representative, they would not vote for him. But the points of his policy, which his modest reticence had long kept in doubt, were by this time understood. He had been the first to urge a generous amnesty to the defeated Rebels, while Andrew Johnson was shricking for the axe and the halter, and the Northern people were still inflamed by the a sassination of Mr. Lincoln. He had insisted upon military protection for the Southern loyalists long before Congress recognized its necessity. He had faithfully enforced the reconstruction laws, repressed the Rebel spirit wherever it broke out, and upheld with all his strength the loyal officers, like Sheridan, who had incurred the animosity of a renegade President by an honest performance of their duty. When Orr, and Brown, and Walker, and other prominent Rebels came to him for advice, he proposed to them the self-same policy which was afterwards made the very foundation of the Republican platform-speedy reconstruction on the basis of amnesty and universal suffrage. And, finally, when the great rupture between the President and Congress was completed by the removal of Mr. Stanton, Grant took his stand resolutely on the right side; and so we have recognized him ever since as the leader of the loyal hosts. When we elect him President on the 3d of November, we shall do it not to reward him for his services in the war, but because we think him the best man to complete

the work which the war left unfinished. Good-bye to Horace Greeley.

From the IV. Y. World. The measure is full! the chicken hath pipped the shell! the "blockheads" of the Loyal Lesgue have cried, "Konkx ompax! this is more than we can stand!"

Yesterday morning the indomitable Smell-fungus Fiapdoodle entered the field as the direct competitor of Horace Greeley. The Morning Radical will henceforth blow the trumpet daily with no uncertain sound about the walls of this Democratic Jericho; and the loose livers of the Tribune, the halters betwixt two opinions, the weak-kneed, white-hatted, unfaithful watchmen who have basely paltered with the Eternal Smash for strawberry plants and the General Post Office, may well tremble in their squash-quartered, trome-tied, tongueless shoes! As Democrats, we can take, of course, no vivid direct interest in this battle of the barrel-organs. As journalists we are bound to say that we doubt the

struggle for the Presidency. He figured as a | absolute success of Flapdoodle. But that | to-day expiating their proper crimes in the friend of Mr. Chase's nomination, and was | Flapdoodle can easily flummox the Tri | penitentiaries. They would have the Execubune is clear. That newspaper, originally started in the name of several noble priuciples naturally entitled to the honors of small caps and double-leaded brevier, long since became the unfragrant convenience of a joint-stock association of adventurers. The earnest enthusiasts who of old made its columns as a daily crackling of thorus under a pot, the hollow-cheeked, fire-eyed reformers who never brushed their hair or went back on a revolution, the disciples of Fourier, of Wendell Phillips, and of Graham, the men who hated with an equal hate roast beef and revealed religion-these have long since shuffled off this mortal coil, or been pushed from their stools by Wall street brokers, Albany lobbyists, and Pennsylvania politicians. No one person in the Tribune owning stock enough to control and give purpose to its policy, and no one of its writers having force enough of brain or will to impress himself upon its columns, the paper, like a hackney-coach, has been at the beck of whoever happened to want a lift, and, like the pig which bolted in Smithfield, has perpetually "gone up all manner of streets!" It has advocated "secession" as as inalienable right of the South, and "coercion" as an imperative duty of the North; it has denounced Abraham Lincoln as a time-server and canonized him as a martyr; it has abused the New York city "ring" and glorified Orison Blunt. If it can be said for some years past to have consistently represented anything whatever, it is the consistent inconsistency of H. G., who, having got himself kicked out of the Union League Club for bailing Jefferson Davis out of prison, forthwith got himself let in again at the servants' gate by trying to push Ben Wade into the Presidency.

This sort of thing it was clear could not go on forever without "riling" the lion of radicalism. It was the more aggravating that the guilty perpetrators began to wash their faces occasionally, to wear cotton gloves on Sunday, to drink lager-beer, to haunt the theatres, and generally to indicate a hankering after the del ghts of life. What Hume said of the ancient Puritans, and Macaulay stole from Hume to say it over again no better, is true of the modern radicals also. Praise-God Barebones and his synagogue esteemed bear-baiting heathenish and inhuman, not because it gave pain to the bear, but because it gave pleasure to the spectators. The Spencers, the Sheridan Shooks, the Fentons, and other such severe moralists of the radical party, began to loathe the Tribune as well as distrust it when they found H. G. revelling in the dance and slip ping anacreontic personals into the Herald and trolling madrigals to the gay guitar under the windows of Lexington avenue, and deserting the mush-bowls of Chappaqua for the wine-bins of the Maison Dores, the bean-pots of the Loyal League for the Apician board of seductive Copperheads in Twenty-third street.

The climax was capped when the Tribune turned its back upon General Butler as a vulgar fellow of mean extraction, and applanded the nomination of a "gentleman of ancient family," a "born gentleman," gentleman by blood, and breeding, and associations, and position," to represent in his stead the "most pure-blooded district in America." Then Spencer arose and swore, and Sheridan shook the bag in which he puts all the internal revenue he can get, and Fenwould lie not in a change of candidates, but ton flung himself in an agony upon his matina change of principles.

ton flung himself in an agony upon his matina change of principles.

That greasy but gifted man is equal to his opportunity. He has turned a somersault from twilight into dawn. He was an Evening Radical while H. G. and his scribbling satellites were clinking their glasses together over Winduat's groaning tables. He will be a Morning Radical while they are yawning away the coma of the misspent night upon silken cushions. Let him have a fair field, for he asks no favors, and we prophesy that the wings of Victory will flap and the doodle of Victory crow from his columns.

The Democracy Roused. From the Boston Post.

What has occurred since the October election has done good rather than harm for the Democratic cause, if we are to judge by the vigorous renewal by the Democrats of their purpose to redeem the country. They are no more stirred by the unnatural shoutings of a half-beaten foe than by their untiring calumny. They go forward hopefully to hold up their banners, on which are inscribed the great promises of the country's future. Unfaltering, andismayed, they breast the storm of noisy opposition, confiding in their cause, devoted to their faith in free government, resolved to rid the country of all forms of tyranny, and believing that such principles as theirs are sure to stand every test and trial to the triumphant end.

The little that is yet to be overcome in order to secure victory excites to encouragement alone. Only one vote in seven hundred and fifty in Indiana. One in a hundred and forty in Pennsylvania. A reduction already of the radical majority of 45,000 in Ohio to 15,000. A gain of three Congressmen in the latter State, of one, and perhaps two, in Indiana, and of two or three in Pennsylvania. The fifteen thousand radical majority in Indiana reduced to a doubtful eight hundred. In the last Presidential election the Ohio Democrats rallied eighteen thousand stronger for McClel lan than at the October election. If they do near so well this year Ohio will give her electoral vote for Seymour and Blair. These are some of the en-couraging facts. That the Democracy are still able to make a sturdy fight Colfax himself is ready to admit; he says that this has been the severest political contest ever fought in Indiana. Pennsylvania was carried by the open importation of paid voters from New York, while honest naturalized citizens of Philadelphia, Germans and Irish, were turned away from the polls by the officers of a radical city government. That government was changed in the recent election, and those citizens will have their rights in November. The New York voters will likewise be kept at home. So that, with persistent exertion on the part of the Democrats, and by keeping their organization solid and streng, it is probable that Pennsylvania, on a fair poll, will cast her vote for the Union and the laws.

The addresses of the several State Central Committees-of Connecticut, New York, Pennsylvania, Ohio, Indiana, and Illinois-testify to the new rising of the Democracy for a final effort. The appearance of our distinguished candidate himself in the field at this critical hour puts fresh hope and courage into every heart. His words at the close of the campaign are so many telling blows against radicalism. His masterly speeches are answered only with base calumnies, by journals whose faculties for argument are paralyzed by the overwhelming force of his plain statements and calm reasoning. Horatio Seymour just at this time is a host in the face of the radical army. Well may the masses who hang on his temperate and statesmanlike words cry out when he is done, "Thank God! we have a candidate who can talk !" Some of the radical papers sneeringly reply to them that the office of the Executive is not to speak but to act. Their partisan satire insults a free people. It is their own usurping party that has sought to take the last vestige of constitutional power from the President, even to the extent of preventing him from deposing office-holders who are

tive neither act nor speak. He should be a mere dummy in their hands. As he should entertain no policy, so should he have no voice. We are proud to present to the country a candidate who can show that he has a policy and a voice together; while of his executive ability no certificate is needed.

A week finishes the work that remains for the shaping of the destinies of this country for a future whose length no human eye can pretend to measure. In that brief time the Da-mocracy should work as they never worked before; not altogether with processions and music, but by argument, by reason, by persuasion; with earnestness, with a devoted love for free institutions, with a zeal that refuses to give way on a single point, for the labor and industry of the country, for equality and lightened taxes, for economy and retrenchment, for a restered Union under the permanent protection of law, for the latest posterity that shall rise up to bless us. Again to the breach, then ! and this time let us carry the enemy's works! No country, free or not, can hope for a long existence with its fairest substance thus wantonly wasted and destroyed by a faction whose whole concep-tion of liberty is the liberty to do what they

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LEGAL NOTICES.

IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF THE UNITED STATES FOR THE EASTERN DISTRICT OF PENNSY LVANIA.

OWEN L. JONES, of Philadelphia, bankrupt, late of the firm of MATTHEW H. ROWE and OWEN L. JONES, late doing business under the firm of HOWE & JONES, having petitioned for his discharge, a meeting of creditors will be held on the third day of November, 1868, at 2 o'clock P. M., before Register WILLIAM MOMICHAEL, Esq., at No. 53) WALNUT Street, in the city of Philadelphia, that the examination of the bankrupt may be finished, and any business of meetings required by sections 27 at 02 so of the act of Congress transacted. The Register will certify whether the bankrupt has conformed to his duty. A meeting will also be held on WED. NEEDAY, the twenty-fith day of November, 1868, before the Court at Philadelphia, a. 10 o'clock A. M., when parties interested may show cause against the discharge. N THE DISTRICT COURT OF THE UNITED

discharge. Witness the Honorable John Cadwalader.

SEAL Judge of the said District Court, and seal thereof, at Philadelphia, October 29, 865.
G. R. FOX. Clerk,

Attest— WILLIAM McMichael, Register. 10 2 wit

WILLIAM MARSHAL'S OFFICE, E. D. OF PENNSYLVANIA.

This is to give notice: That on the 20th day of October, A. D. 1863, a warrant in bankrupicy was Issued sgainst the estate of WILLIAM B. BARRETT, of Philadelphia, in the county of Philadelphia, and State of Fennsylvania, who has been adjudged a bankrupt, on his own petition; that the payment of any debts and celivery of any property belonging to such bankrupt, to him, or for his use, and the transfer of any property by him. are forsidden by law; that a meeting of the creditors of the said bankrupt, to prove their debts, and to choose one or more assigners of his retake, will be beid at a Court of Bankrupt, to be holden at No 530 WALNUT Street. Philadelphia, hefore WILLIAM MCMICHAEL, Eq., Regis er, on the 20th day of November, a. b. 1853, at 30 clock P. M.

P. C. Fillmakes, at 30 clock P. M.

U. S. Marshal, as gessubger.

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